



# Share the Beach



## Sea Turtle Volunteer Program

Newsletter of the USFWS Daphne Ecological Services Field Office

October 9, 2001

### Contact Information:

US Fish &  
Wildlife Service  
251-441-5181  
1-866-SEA-TURTLE  
Ext. 32 or 41  
**New Cell:**  
**251-331-0141**

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Drawer 1190  
Daphne, AL 36526



### Sea Turtle Facts

#### Hawksbill

*Eretmochelys imbricata*

- Prized for tortoiseshell jewelry
- Main food - sponges
- Smaller and more agile than Loggerhead
- Can climb over reefs, rocks, and vegetation to nest

Dear Sea Turtle Volunteers,

Sea turtle nesting season is coming to a close. Our last meeting of the season will be held on Tuesday **October 16, 2001** at the Gulf State Park Resort at 6:30 PM in the Neptune room. We want to celebrate our successful season, so this will be a pot luck/ bring a snack to share. Nature center at the park will be bringing sodas and coffee. This will be a joint meeting with the volunteers from the Ft. Morgan area.

Nest data as of September 18<sup>th</sup> is as follows:

- 37 of 49 nests evaluated
- 9 washed away or missing
- 12 did not hatch
- 16 hatched
- Average of 101 eggs/nest.
- Average incubation period 64 days
- Survival Percentage of 31%

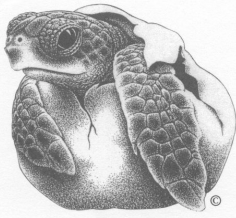
The following is a list of known nests that remain:

7/27- 9/20	West side of Calloway Bridge (E17)
8/1- 9/25	Vacant lot west of 2727 W. Bch. (E18)
8/2- 9/26	1631 W. Bch Blvd. Fox II Loggerhead
8/6- 9/31	Alabama Point GSP
8/6- 9/31	Phoenix VII Orange Beach
8/8- 10/2	Emerald Shores
9/5- 10/29	1581 West Bch – screened but no eggs found, may be a FALSE CRAWL

Thanks and Congrats

(continued on next page)

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**Alpha** – Orange  
Beach /Perdido  
Key  
**Charlie** – Gulf  
State Park  
**Delta** – Gulf  
Shores Beach  
**Echo** – Laguna  
Key & West Beach  
West  
**Foxtrot I & II** –  
West Beach East  
**Gulf** – Fort  
Morgan



**Definition**

**Piped** – a turtle  
that has pierced  
the eggshell, but  
not yet emerged.

**Data Sheets**

We need data sheets for all nests that have been either excavated, washed away, or have hatched. Following is a list of the nest data sheets we need so far:

1857  
2297  
2075  
2425  
22714

1469

Alabama Point- Marked by Normans

1973

Nest East of Callaway Bridge (Foxtrot)

2957

If you have any of these data sheets please mail them to us. On most of them we are missing the crawl data. Do not worry about filling in the excavation data. We did most of the excavations and we will put in that information. This information will be available to everyone once it is compiled. Thank you for your prompt response regarding this matter.

**Thanks**

We cannot thank you enough for all long hours that you have put in, often under adverse conditions, to make this program a success!

Happy Turtling,

Beth

Nathan

Celeste

